

UPI-192

(DODD)

WASHINGTON--THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HAS INFORMED SENATE INVESTIGATORS THAT SEN. THOMAS J. DODD, D-CONN., SOUGHT INFORMATION ON THE SO-CALLED SOVIET MURDER APPARATUS BEFORE AND AFTER HE FLEW TO WEST GERMANY IN 1964.

THE 59-YEAR-OLD CONNECTICUT DEMOCRAT, CHARGED WITH MISCONDUCT, HAS INSISTED THAT HE MADE THE SIX-DAY TRIP IN APRIL 1964 FOR THE SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE WHICH WAS STUDYING SOVIET TERRORISM.

HE DENIED CHARGES THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE JOURNEY WAS TO HELP LONG-TIME FRIEND AND HIGH-POWERED PUBLIC RELATIONS MERCHANT WHO WAS LOSING CLIENTS IN GERMANY.

THE SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEE RELEASED A LETTER FROM CIA DIRECTOR RICHARD HELMS WHICH SAID THAT DODD SOUGHT INFORMATION HERE AND ALSO CONTACTED CIA AGENTS IN BONN ABOUT THE SAME MATTER.

IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THE LETTER, HELMS SAID "SEN. THOMAS J. DODD, D-CONN., HAS ASKED THAT THIS AGENCY CONFIRM THE FACT OF HIS CONTACTS WITH THIS AGENCY IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ON SOVIET MURDERS, ASSASSINATIONS AND KIDNAPINGS."

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE RELEASED THE LETTER, DODD, WHEN QUESTIONED BY REPORTERS, SAID HE HAD NOT ASKED FOR THE CONFIRMATION FROM THE CIA. HE ALSO SAID HE HAD NOT SEEN HELMS' LETTER.

CHAIRMAN JOHN C. STENNIS, D-MISS., SAID THE LETTER, DATED JULY 14, "WAS HANDED TO ME BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CIA WHO STATED IT WAS IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES MADE BY SENATOR DODD."

THE LETTER WAS OFFERED AS EVIDENCE JULY 19 BY DODD'S LAWYER, JOHN F. SONNETT, BUT ITS ADMISSIBILITY WAS DELAYED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE. STENNIS SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND THE LETTER GO INTO THE RECORD.

ALTHOUGH THE LETTER CONFIRMED DODD'S INTEREST IN THE BOGDAN STASHYNSKY AFFAIR, IT DID NOT STATE WHETHER THAT WAS THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR HIS TRIP.

THE LETTER ADDED:

"SENATOR DODD AND HIS ASSISTANT, DAVID MARTIN, WERE IN CONTACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS AGENCY INTERMITTENTLY BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER THE SENATOR'S TRIP TO GERMANY IN APRIL OF 1964 IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN AS MUCH INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT AS COULD BE MADE PUBLIC AT THAT TIME.

"IN RESPONSE TO SENATOR DODD'S REQUEST, THIS AGENCY COOPERATED WITH THE SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS STUDY BY PROVIDING CERTAIN BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON SOVIET MURDERS, ASSASSINATIONS, AND KIDNAPINGS.

"PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO THE CASE OF BOGDAN STASHYNSKY BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE AND THIS AGENCY SINCE A GREAT DEAL OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CASE WAS A MATTER OF RECORD AND COULD BE MADE PUBLIC."

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